

(ഇ) തേക്കുള്ള പറമ്പുകളിൽനിന്നു കവുക്കുകൾ മുറിച്ചുകളയുന്നതിന്റെ കാരണം ഗവണ്മെന്റ് അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (Joint Secretary to Government):

(എ) പതിനൊന്ന്.

(ബി) നിയമം നടപ്പാക്കുന്നതിന്നു മുമ്പ് അന്വേഷണം ഒന്നും നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല. പക്ഷെ ഈ നികുതി ചുമത്തുന്നതു മൂലം അടക്കാകുപ്പി നശിച്ചുപോകുമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റ് കരുതുന്നില്ല.

(സി) ഭൂമിയുടെ സ്വഭാവവും മാറിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന മറ്റു പരിതഃസ്ഥിതികളും അനുസരിച്ച് ഓരോ പ്രദേശത്തും അനുവർത്തിച്ചുവരുന്ന കൃഷിസമ്പ്രദായം വ്യത്യാസപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കും.

(ഡി) ഇല്ല.

(ഇ) നാലാം ചോദ്യത്തിന്റെ മറുപടികൊണ്ട് ഈ ചോദ്യത്തിന്നു മറുപടി ആവുമല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് മലബാറിലെ അടക്കാകുപ്പിയും ഇവിടത്തെ അടക്കാകുപ്പിയും തമ്മിൽ വല്ല വ്യത്യാസവുമുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: ഓരോ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേയും ഭൂസ്ഥിതിയനുസരിച്ചിരിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: നന്നു മുതലായ രക്ഷ അവിടത്തെ കവുക്കുകൾക്കു ചെയ്തു വരാറുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: അതെല്ലാം ഓരോ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേയും ഭൂസ്ഥിതിയനുസരിച്ചായിരിക്കും ചെയ്യാറുള്ളതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: കവുക്കു നനക്കാതെ ഉണക്കിപ്പോകുന്നതായി ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: പെട്ടിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഉണ്ടോ എന്നു അന്വേഷിക്കാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: അന്വേഷിക്കാം.

EXTENT OF LANDS UNDER TAPIOCA CULTIVATION BY PRIVATE AGENCIES

303. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (Cheruthuruthi):

Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) how many acres of land are under tapioca cultivation by private agencies other than the acreage under cultivation direct by Government agency;

(b) if there are no statistics, will the Government try to have one at an early date?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishkar):

(a) 25,649.90-3/8 acres.

(b) The question does not arise in view of answer to (a).

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know, Sir, what is the extent planted by Government with tapioca?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishkar): About 4 thousand acres roughly.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know whether the 4 thousand acres planted by the Government, tapioca has been lifted?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishkar): What is planted in one season is lifted in another season. There are three seasons for this tapioca to be lifted.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know whether any quantity has been left unlifted, although it is fit for lifting?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishkar): I have no information, I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Is the Government aware of a fall in the price of tapioca?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishkar): Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Will the Government be pleased to take any steps so that the poor agriculturists may not suffer?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishkar): Certain restrictions regarding movements from village to village and place to place have been removed. They are allowed to manufacture sago and some export permits are also given with some conditions attached.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Has any permit been given for exporting tapioca from Cochin?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): How many tons?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): About 40 tons have been sold and permits will be issued for this quantity.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Have there not been many requests for permits for exporting tapioca out of Cochin?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes. If it is meant for consumption outside, permits would be given.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Have the Government any objection to allow permits for exporting tapioca which is not wanted here in this State for consumption?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): If there are real statistics of what is required by the people here Government have no objection provided it is not for sale.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Have the Government any idea of the quantity that is necessary for consumption in Cochin?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Actual statistics are not taken.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): How will it be possible for the Government to assess whether there is any possibility of any excess quantity being available for export?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): The demand in the market and the prices prevailing will provide a good index.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know Sir, if the present food situation and the availability of it in the State will warrant Government to remove all control on tapioca?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Recently conversion into starch has been allowed to the extent as possible. It is being allowed to be absorbed in other directions.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Is any tapioca sold through the Fair Price Shops and the licensed shops now?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): In some places, it is sold.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know, Sir, whether it is the case when we are giving 12 ounces of rice and 4 ounces of wheat, and whether that is not the normal adequate quantity for an adult?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Tapioca is very cheap food and it is very popular among the poorer classes. Those that cannot purchase the entire ration depend upon this for their food to some extent.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): If the control is released could not the people get tapioca in the open market?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): If the control is released, the entire stock will be used for conversion into starch.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): Has not the Government imposed a duty of 4 annas?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): It is proposed to be reduced to 2 annas.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): May I know Sir, whether the imposition of this duty is done under the Defence of India Act?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. (*Secretary to Government*): Under the Proclamation issued.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Whether the opinion of this House was taken, may I know.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon (*Advocate-General*): No time could be wasted. The complaint was tapioca was wasted. That was the position at the time.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): If there is no duty fixed for tapioca conversion they will at least convert into starch.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): The imposition of the duty was found necessary to regulate it. To expedite it, Proclamation was issued.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know, Sir, whether it has not been the expressed policy reiterated in this House that no tax will be imposed without consulting this House.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. (*Secretary to Government*): There has been no such expressed statement, but that is the general policy.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know when moving for arecanut duty, they said that on account of emergent circumstances, it was done and it will never be done ordinarily without consulting the House?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. (Secretary to Government): Sir, there were loud complaints regarding tapioca. It was stated that people had invested large amounts in wholesale cultivation of tapioca and it was also stated that that tapioca was going to waste. Then the question arose as to what the Government should do in the matter. It is a food stuff and we have given facilities for cultivation of tapioca considering that this is an essential food for our people. Government thought it will not be proper to allow it to be exploited, just to make huge profit, by converting it into starch and exporting it to Bombay when it is largely used in cotton-mills. Government thought they had a moral duty to the people here and to the people of the adjoining territories to see that the crop that is grown is used as food. Therefore they wanted to control the conversion of tapioca into starch. They found that the best way to that would be to impose a small duty so that the officers may have an opportunity to check how much quantity has been converted into starch from time to time. For that purpose they had no chance to wait, to come to this House and to ask for this small imposition of duty. This is after all, a small excise duty on a very limited quantity of the crop and that under very special circumstances. What were the alternatives for the Government? Either to allow the loud complaints of the people to go unheeded or to do what is required in time. They adopted the latter attitude and they did the right thing.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know, when tapioca was being wasted what was the necessity for this?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. (Secretary to Government): That is the complaint. As I said before, these crops were cultivated at Government instance and Government help so that it may be a substitute for food for the people. So long as conditions were not normal we were not prepared to allow this to be used for commercial purposes so long as we were not satisfied that the whole of it or the quantity that we wanted was not available here for food. It was just to carry out that plan that we wanted to impose this small duty. We wanted to assist the cultivators as much as possible and we took timely action.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): When it was being wasted and when there was no demand, what was the necessity for the Government to interfere with the free conversion of it?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): The Hon'ble Member is confusing what I said. Complaints were not accepted. Government did not agree that the complaints were real. Government still thought that tapioca roots would be required as food. They wanted to control. They did not accept the complaints. But still we thought we will give them an opportunity provided our food requirements are fully met and to meet that situation this is the best method that could be adopted.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know, Sir, whether you could not have an alternative in exercising some measure of control?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): This was the best method which was possible because it was conversion here and Government wanted this kind of machinery to be introduced.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): What I am asking is with a system of permits could it not be done and would not that ensure the control that is necessary?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (Secretary to Government): That by itself would not have been a complete fool proof method.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know whether it is an export duty?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): It is an excise duty on the conversion of the root into starch. It is not an export duty. Government under interport trade convention will never impose an export duty on commodities that are exported to the neighbouring British area. But they are at perfect liberty to impose any excise duty.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to take a liberal policy in giving permits for export provided a responsible officer of British Malabar certifies that it will be used as food stuff.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): That has been done long ago. Whenever such requests come with due certificates, they are automatically sanctioned.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know on what basis is the statement made that tapioca is not used by the public?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): Who said that? Cultivators said that they can't sell tapioca. We did not agree with them. We said it would be a valuable food stuff.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Who is the best Judge to say that this stuff cannot be sold, the owner of the stuff or somebody else?

Rama Varmha Tampuran M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): Under the circumstances, Government are the best Judges.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know whether these poor cultivators would not get much more money by converting the tapioca that they produce and which they cannot sell into starch? Is not that the way to encourage?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): It is not the poor people who are cultivating.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Cultivators have abundant means.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഇക്കൊല്ലം കൊള്ളിച്ചുകി എത്ര ഏക്കർ ചെട്ടുട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ? ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിലായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ? കൊള്ളിച്ചുകി തീരെ ഇല്ലാതായിത്തീർന്നുണ്ടെന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ധരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (Diwan Peishakar): We have yet to see next year. For this year; sowing was done last year. Planting of the tapioca has yet to be done so far as the next crop is concerned. What we reap this year is what we planted last year. It is not time for us to see your statement that people had been discouraged in the matter of growing this on account of the policy which the Government has accepted at present.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ൧൧൨൦-ൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന കൊള്ളി എന്നു കത്തിയതാണെന്നു പറയാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. മാധവപ്രഭു: കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം, അതായതു ൧൧൧൯-ൽ.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ൧൧൧൯-ൽ എത്ര മാസത്തിൽ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. മാധവപ്രഭു: ഇടവം, മിഥുനം, കർക്കടകം എന്നീ മാസങ്ങളിൽ.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ആകെ എത്ര ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലത്ത് കൊള്ളിച്ചുകി ചെട്ടുട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ?

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Is there any excise duty in Travancore?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (Secretary to Government): I do not know. They have got excise duty on various articles. I do not know whether tapioca is included in it.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Is it not the policy to go *paripassu* with Travancore in such matters?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know what is the basis of the Government's position that tapioca is necessary for consumption here?

Rama Varmha Tampuran M.B.E. (Secretary to Government): That is the position of the Government. They think that a portion of the tapioca cultivated in the State is still required in the State as food stuff.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): On what basis does that statement rest?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Poor people are buying it in large quantities.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ൧൧൧൮-ൽ കത്തിയ കൊള്ളി ഇനി എത്ര ഏക്കറാണ് പഠിക്കുവാനുള്ളത്?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I want notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know whether in the Hill Paddy Cultivation the tapioca that was raised was used for conversion or for anything else?

Mr. T. K. Nayar (Minister for Rural Development): Due to wild growth and other things some areas might have been left.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): How much of tapioca was taken as food?

Mr. T. K. Nayar (Minister for Rural Development): The whole of the tapioca in the Hill Paddy Scheme was converted into starch.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know what is the average yield per acre in tapioca?

Mr. T. K. Nayar (Minister for Rural Development): From two to four tons.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): May I know, whether Government has placed any ban on the export of sweet tapioca?

M. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know whether on this date the Council was not sitting—the first meeting of the Legislative session this year?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): It was on account of the representation made in the Council also.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know whether the Council was not as a matter of fact sitting at this time,

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I am not aware of the exact date.

Rama Varmha Tampuran M. B. E. (Secretary to Government): All these facts were fully explained to the Council in Vrischigam Session and Government also explained what steps Government would take. There was no hint from any quarter that the House should be consulted for any emergent legislation.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know whether the House was told that you are going to impose an excise duty at any time?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): If I remember right, all facts were explained.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know Sir, whether this duty was imposed after the Meeting in Vrischigam?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I think it was on the 8th day of Dhanu 1120.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): What was the difficulty with the Government in their hurry to impose this taxation to place this matter before the first meeting of the Legislative Session which met from 19th Vrischigam 1120 to 22nd Vrischigam 1120.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): The matter was being considered then.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Why not consult the House?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Government did not come to a definite decision on the actual procedure to be adopted.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): How many requests for permits for conversion have been received?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know Sir, whether not more than a dozen permits have been issued though very many requests have been received?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): About a dozen permits were issued.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): How many were received?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Somewhere over thirty.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know what is the principle underlying the policy of not giving licenses freely to all applicants?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Because in some localities, there is scarcity for it as it is a deficit area. In C. K. Taluk, the stuff has to come from other areas. Where there is abundant supply we give licenses for larger number of people.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): May I know, Sir, whether tapioca was not converted into starch by somebody in Cochin even after the ban is introduced?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Government have no information. I want notice.

ANICUT SYSTEMS IN KORAYAR RIVER

304. **Mr. K. S. Panicker (Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):**

താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ബ. ഗവണ്മെന്റ് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) കൊരയാർ പുഴയിൽ ആകെ എത്ര anicut system ഉണ്ട്;

(ബി) ഇവകളിൽ ഏറ്റവും മുകളിലുള്ള അണക്കെട്ട് ഏതാണ്;

(സി) ഇവകളിൽ ഏതെല്ലാം അണക്കെട്ടുകൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റുടമസ്ഥതയിൽ ഉണ്ട്;

(ഡി) ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഏറ്റെടുക്കാത്ത മറ്റു ഏതെല്ലാം അണക്കെട്ടുകൾ കൂടി ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഏറ്റെടുക്കുവാൻ കൃഷിക്കാർ അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്;

(ഇ) കൊരയാർ പുഴയിൽ ഉള്ള സ്വകാര്യ അണക്കെട്ടുകൾ ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഏറ്റെടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടാത്ത ഏതെങ്കിലും അണക്കെട്ടുകൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് കൈവശം വെക്കണമെന്ന കൃഷിക്കാർ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ;